MALACOLOGY.—A new volutid marine mollusk, Aurinia schmitti.¹ Paul Bartsch, U. S. National Museum.

Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Curator of our Marine Invertebrates, while collecting Crustacea in 1930 under the auspices of the Carnegie Institution at the Marine Biological Station, Tortugas, Florida, made a number of hauls with a 30-foot otter trawl south of Tortugas. In one of these hauls in 80 fms. he secured two specimens of an *Aurinia*, which differ from any heretofore secured; these are here described.

Aurinia schmitti, n. sp.

Fig. 1.

Shell large, spindle-shaped, exterior covered by an olivaceous periostracum which dehisced upon drying. When the periostracum is removed the general color of the shell is pinkish chalky with the exception of the nucleus, which is pale buff. There are also rows of chestnut-brown spots, which are arranged in Two of these occur between the summit and the suture of the spiral series. The last whorl shows five of these interrupted bands; the first much less developed than the rest, being at some little distance anterior to the summit of the whorl; the next and fifth band are of about equal width, while the third and fourth are fully twice as wide as the second and fifth. The base of the columella is also brown. The front of the shell from the inner columellar edge to the left side of the shell and the same area of the proceeding whorl, are covered with a soiled, smoky gray, somewhat nacreous callus. Inside of outer lip salmon-colored, showing the two heavy interrupted bands, and the rest by transmitted light. The nucleus consists of about one turn, which forms a smooth mammilated apex. Postnuclear whorls appressed at the summit, marked by obsolete, rather broad, irregular, axial ribs, which are absent on the first and last turns. They show best on the second and third. The entire postnuclear part of the shell is marked by rather strong incremental lines, particularly so behind the edge of the outer lip. The spiral sculpture consists of numerous fine raised threads, which are of almost equal strength and spacing on the early whorls, but become less so on the later whorls; on the last they are a little stronger on the basal half than on the posterior portion thereof. Aperture elongate-oval, strongly channelled anteriorly and feebly so at the posterior angle; outer lip thin at the edge, somewhat sigmoid, being protracted in the middle, columella with two strong oblique folds.

Type.—The type, U.S. N. M. No. 382779, has five postnuclear whorls, and measures: Height, 115 mm.; greater diameter, 35 mm.; length of aperture,

78 mm.

The present species resembles Aurinia robusta Dall in the shouldering of the last turn at the posterior angle of the aperture, which is even more strongly emphasized here. The spotting, too, is obscure as in that species. It also resembles it in the callus formation of the front of the last turn. In general shape, excepting the posterior angle of the aperture, it resembles Aurinia

¹ Published by permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Received November 10, 1931.

dubia Broderip more closely than Aurinia robusta Dall, but it is at once distinguished from it by the absence of the polished surface and brilliant spotting.

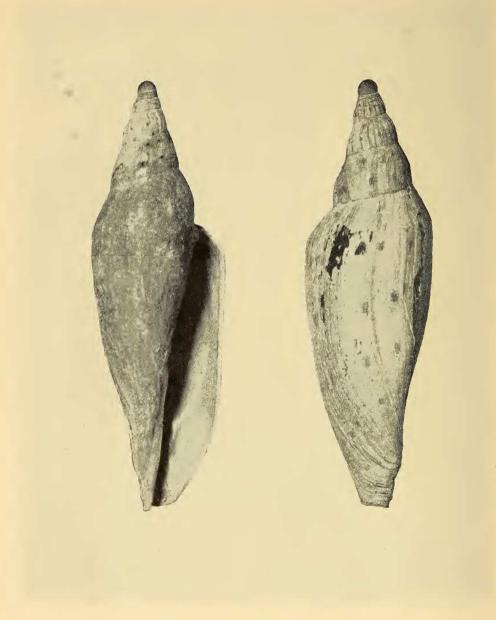


Figure 1. Aurinia schmitti Bartsch.

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